## IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as follows:

A motion estimation method and device for selecting a final motion vector to be coded, in consideration of a zero vector and a predicted motion vector as well as a motion vector having a minimum error, thereby increasing video coding efficiency.

## <u>REMARKS</u>

The above preliminary amendment is made to correct grammatical and typographical errors in the specification and drawings. Approval for the drawing corrections is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Curtis B. Hamre (Reg. No. 29,165), at 612.336.4722.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903 (612) 332-5300

Dated: February 13, 2001

Curtis B. Hamre Reg. No. 29,165

CBH/kas